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6 **BEFORE THE**
7 **CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**
8 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
9 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

10 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. AC-2012-41

11 **STEPHEN P. CORSO aka STEPHEN P.**
12 **CORSO, JR.**
13 **2965 South Jones Boulevard, Suite E1**
14 **Las Vegas, Nevada 89146**

DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

15 **Certified Public Accountant Certificate No.**
16 **CPA 70189**

[Gov. Code, §11520]

17 Respondent.

18 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

19 1. On or about March 21, 2012, Complainant Patti Bowers, in her official capacity as
20 the Executive Officer of the California Board of Accountancy, Department of Consumer Affairs,
21 filed Accusation No. AC-2012-41 against Stephen P. Corso, also known as Stephen P. Corso, Jr.
22 (Respondent), before the California Board of Accountancy. (Accusation attached as Exhibit A.)

23 2. On or about November 17, 1995, the California Board of Accountancy (CBA) issued
24 Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 70189 to Respondent. The Certified Public
25 Accountant Certificate expired on August 31, 2006, and has not been renewed. The CBA has
26 jurisdiction to adjudicate this case per Business and Professions Code section 5109.

27 3. On or about April 3, 2012, Respondent was served by Certified Mail and First Class
28 United States Mail with copies of the Accusation No. AC-2012-41, Statement to Respondent,

1 Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections
2 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7) at Respondent's address of record which, pursuant to California
3 Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3, is required to be reported and maintained with the CBA.
4 Respondent's address of record was and is: Stephen P. Corso, 2965 South Jones Boulevard, Suite
5 E1, Las Vegas, Nevada 89146.

6 4. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of
7 Government Code section 11505, subdivision (c) and/or Business and Professions Code section
8 124.

9 5. To date, none of the aforementioned documents served upon Respondent was
10 returned by the U.S. Postal Service.

11 6. Government Code section 11506 states, in pertinent part:

12 (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent
13 files a notice of defense, and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts
14 of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall
constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion
may nevertheless grant a hearing.

15 7. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon him
16 of the Accusation, and therefore waived his right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No.
17 AC-2012-41.

18 8. California Government Code section 11520 states, in pertinent part:

19 (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at the
20 hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions
21 or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to
respondent.

22 9. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the CBA finds
23 Respondent is in default. The CBA will take action without further hearing and, based on the
24 relevant evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this matter,
25 as well as taking official notice of all the investigatory reports, exhibits and statements contained
26 therein on file at the CBA's offices regarding the allegations contained in Accusation No. AC-
27 2012-41, finds that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. AC-2012-41, are separately and
28 severally, found to be true and correct by clear and convincing evidence.

10. Taking official notice of its own internal records, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 5107, it is hereby determined that the reasonable costs for Investigation and Enforcement is \$4,656.32 as of April 27, 2012.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Stephen P. Corso has subjected his Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 70189 to discipline.

2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.

3. The California Board of Accountancy is authorized to revoke Respondent's Certified Public Accountant Certificate based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this case.

a. Business & Professions Code section 5100(a) by Respondent's convictions for wire fraud and attempted tax evasion;

b. Business & Professions Code sections 5100(b) and 5100(l) by Respondent's suspension from appearing or practicing before the Securities Exchange Commission.

ORDER

IT IS SO ORDERED that Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 70189, heretofore issued to Respondent Stephen P. Corso, is revoked.

Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.

This Decision shall become effective on June 28, 2012.

It is so ORDERED May 29, 2012



FOR THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF
ACCOUNTANCY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Exhibit A

Accusation

1 KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General of California
2 ARTHUR D. TAGGART
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 STERLING A. SMITH
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 84287
1300 I Street, Suite 125
5 P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550
6 Telephone: (916) 445-0378
Facsimile: (916) 327-8643
7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

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9 **BEFORE THE**
CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. AC-2012-41

13 **STEPHEN P. CORSO, aka STEPHEN P. CORSO, JR.**
2965 South Jones Boulevard, Suite E1
14 Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

ACCUSATION

15 Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 70189

16 Respondent.

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19 Complainant alleges:

20 **PARTIES**

21 1. Patti Bowers (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as
22 the Executive Officer of the California Board of Accountancy, Department of Consumer Affairs.

23 2. On or about November 17, 1995, the California Board of Accountancy issued
24 Certified Public Accountant Certificate Number CPA 70189 to Stephen P. Corso, also known as
25 Stephen P. Corso, Jr. (Respondent). The Certified Public Accountant Certificate expired on
26 August 31, 2006, and has not been renewed.

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JURISDICTION

3. This Accusation is brought before the California Board of Accountancy (CBA), Department of Consumer Affairs. All references to "Code" mean the California Business & Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

4. Code section 5100 provides, in pertinent part, that:

After notice and hearing the board may revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew any permit or certificate granted under Article 4 (commencing with Section 5070) and Article 5 (commencing with Section 5080), or may censure the holder of that permit or certificate for unprofessional conduct that includes, but is not limited to, one or any combination of the following causes:

(a) Conviction of any crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of a certified public accountant or a public accountant.

...

(h) Suspension or revocation of the right to practice before any governmental body or agency.

...

(l) The imposition of any discipline, penalty, or sanction on a registered public accounting firm or any associated person of such firm, or both, or on any other holder of a permit, certificate, license, or other authority to practice in this state, by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board or the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, or their designees under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 or other federal legislation.

..."

5. Code section 5109 provides that "the expiration, cancellation, forfeiture, or suspension of a license, practice privilege, or other authority to practice public accountancy by operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, or the voluntary surrender of a license by a licensee shall not deprive the board of jurisdiction to commence or proceed with any investigation of or action or disciplinary proceeding against the licensee, or to render a decision suspending or revoking the license".

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6. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension/expiration/surrender/cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board/Registrar/Director of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.

7. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board/Registrar/
Director may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a
violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the
investigation and enforcement of the case.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Criminal Conviction)

8. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 5100, subdivision (a) in that on or about February 20, 2009, in *United States of America v. Stephen P. Corso*, United States District Court, District of Connecticut, Case No. 3:05CR105 (JCH), Respondent was convicted by his plea of guilty to wire fraud in violation of section 1343, title 18, United States Code and for attempted tax evasion in violation of section 7201, title 26, United States Code, both felonies. Each of the said crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a certified public accountant.

9. The circumstances of Respondent's crimes are that in or about January 1997 Respondent entered into a scheme to defraud and obtain money and property by false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises to his tax accounting clients, including but not limited to collection of funds from clients to pay quarterly and annual tax obligations that Respondent never forwarded to the taxing authorities, but instead converted to his personal use without the knowledge, authorization or approval of his clients. Moreover, Respondent prepared, signed and submitted to the taxing authorities false and fraudulent tax returns for clients in his willful attempt to evade income taxes due from such clients.

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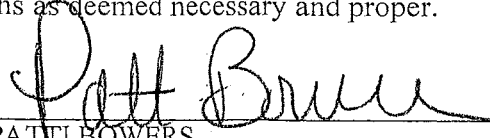
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3. Taking such other and further actions as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: March 21, 2012



PATTI BOWERS
Executive Officer
California Board of Accountancy
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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